



See page 2 for Year of the NCO article.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Oct. 7, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Wanted: Stories about NCOs

To showcase the year of the noncommissioned officer, the *APG News* is looking for story ideas to publish. Anyone with a suggestion should call the editor, Debi Horne, 410-278-1150.

Disability Expo, Career Fair Oct. 8

In celebration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Disability Expo and Career Fair will be held 1 to 4:30 p.m., Oct. 8, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center building 3326, on Erie Street.

Sign language interpreters will be available.

To request other disability-related accommodations, call 410-278-9669.

Accessible transportation from the Aberdeen Train Station to APG Job Fair is available 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Transportation reservations are required; call 410-838-7177.

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With shift to Signal Command, DOIM becomes 70th APG tenant organization

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The Chief of Staff of the Army has directed the assignment of the Directorate of Information Management to the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Signal Command, or USANETCOM/9th SC, in support of the Global Network Enterprise.

The reassignment, which affects DOIMs throughout the Army, is effective Oct. 1 when the Aberdeen Proving Ground DOIM will be renamed the U.S. Army Signal Network Enterprise Center, APG, OR NEC APG.

With the transfer, NEC APG becomes the 70th APG Garrison-supported organization.

The NEC APG will continue to provide information technology services to APG customers through integrated network operations and the transparent delivery of LandWarNet (LWN) capabilities, according to Jeff VanBemmel, deputy director, NEC APG.

"Services at APG will stay the same as well as our relationship with the garrison," VanBemmel said. "The main difference is, instead of aligning with the Instal-



The Directorate of Information Management becomes the U.S. Army Signal Network Enterprise Center - Aberdeen Proving Ground during a sign exchange by NEC APG Deputy Director Jeff VanBemmel, right, and Rebecca McWilliams, NEC APG staff action central officer.

lation Management Command, we now come under the 9th Signal Brigade and the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command or NETCOM."

"Having a command that is Army signal trained all the way up to the Department of the Army level can only help us," he added. "We'll get better support,

and we'll be able to provide better services to our customers.

"This change is simply about aligning priorities and resources under one command," VanBemmel added. "We use to receive resources from one command - IMCOM - and technical direction from another - NETCOM. This aspect alone will result in

better focus and ability to prioritize and allocate resources to support the missions of our customers.

"NEC APG and the garrison will continue to work closely together," he said. "It's important to all of us that we maintain that relationship."

See related article on page 13.

Energy Awareness Month emphasizes prosperity, security, growth

Story by
ED STAATS
DPW

October is Energy Awareness Month. This year the Department of Energy's theme is "A Sustainable Energy Future; Putting All the Pieces Together."

Energy Awareness Month is an annual event which promotes a greater awareness of energy consumption, wiser use of limited energy resources and reaffirms the impor-

ance of energy to the economic prosperity, security and growth of America.

The nation faces many serious and immediate challenges. American Families and businesses are struggling in a recession and an increasingly competitive global economy. The nation has become deeply dependent on a single energy source to power cars, trucks and airplanes. Hundreds of billions of dollars are spent each year to import nearly 60

percent of the oil it uses.

America faces an unprecedented threat to its very way of life from climate change.

This year's theme emphasizes the idea that no matter how large the problem may appear, the fact remains that every American is a part of the solution. Every day, Americans make decisions that can stimulate sustainability and a new energy economy. When all the pieces are put together,

See **ENERGY**, page 4

Upcoming Fall Fest focuses on fire prevention; free activities for all ages

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community is invited to Fall Fest which will be held at the Directorate of Emergency Services building 2200, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 10.

This event celebrates Fire Prevention Week Oct. 4 through 10, and will include educational activities like a fire extinguisher simulation and fire and rescue demonstrations that focus on fire prevention safety and more.

"In the past we have had a good turnout from the APG community because this is a free, fun, educational event," said Doug Farrington, fire protection inspector and event coordinator. "This year promises to be a great event, and we encourage all to come out."

Farrington added that this year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Stay Smart, Don't Get Burned," which focuses on burn awareness and prevention.

"At the Fall Fest, attendees will learn important information that one day could save

their lives or the lives of those they love," he said.

Farrington added that there will be a Junior Firefighter's Combat Challenge and an obstacle course, which has been very popular with children in the past, and that the static displays of fire trucks and equipment are also a popular attraction for all ages.

There will be many other fun activities for guests including balloon animals, caricature paintings, face paintings and temporary tattoos, arts and crafts, a bounce house, games, give aways and a mobile book fair.

Special guests include Daren the Lion, Sparky the Fire Dog and Retro Bill, "the official D.A.R.E. safety buddy."

Throughout the event music will be provided by a disc jockey. Free food will also be provided.

One highlight of the day will be the Red Ribbon campaign "DRUG FREE" kickoff by the APG Army Substance Abuse Program staff.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week 2009, go to www.nfpa.org.

Fall Fest schedule

Fall Fest opens	10 a.m.
Kitchen fire demo	10 a.m.
Car extraction	11 a.m.
Sack races	11:30 a.m.
Food served	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Red Ribbon event	Noon
McGruff 26th Anniversary cake cutting	12:15 p.m.
Daren the Lion	12:15 p.m.
Retro Bill Show	1 p.m.
Sparky the Fire Dog	1:30 p.m.
High expansion foam demo	2 p.m.
Car fire	2:30 p.m.
Fall Fest closes	3 p.m.

TRAFFIC ALERT

Traffic changes continue

DPW

Traffic changes will continue in the Aberdeen Area for the next few weeks.

Combat Drive is now open for C4ISR Phase I traffic and the segment of Boothby Hill Avenue between Combat Drive and Maryland Boulevard is closed for future demolition.

Completion of the work on Boothby Hill Avenue between Combat Drive and Darlington Street has been delayed, but is expected to be completed and opened for traffic next week. When that occurs, traffic will be allowed to return to a more normal flow on Boothby Hill Avenue. With Boothby Hill Avenue reopened, reconstruction of Darlington Street will then be scheduled.

The long anticipated reopening of the Harford Gate will occur next week with all ID check lanes scheduled to be open for use. As a reminder, the Aberdeen Boulevard (Route 715) Gate will be closed when the Harford Gate reopens at its full capacity of five lanes.

The other traffic change that is in progress is speed limit changes on both inbound and outbound Maryland Boulevard from the Bush River and Deer

Creek Loop intersection to the APG property line.

Inbound traffic changes will see the current 25 mph speed limit just prior to Visitor Center Drive increased to 35 mph. The 35 miles per hour speed zone will extend to where the road diverges just prior to the ID check lanes at the gate canopy. There the speed limit will reduce to 25 mph and remain 25 mph across the active vehicle barriers to just past the Bush River and Deer Creek Loop intersection. At that point, it will return to 35 mph all the way to Aberdeen Boulevard.

For outbound traffic, the speed limit will be reduced to 25 mph at the Bush River and Deer Creek Loop intersection and will remain 25 mph across the active vehicle barrier to the reject lane just west of the gate canopy. At that point, the speed limit will be increased to 40 mph from there to the beginning of the Maryland State 45 mph zone at the APG property line.

Once again, these activities are subject to weather delays. Additional updates will be provided for these events as needed. Patience and attention to safety are appreciated.

For more information, contact Jerry Norris, Directorate of Public Works, 410-306-1159.

TRICARE requires drive-time access-to-care waivers by today

U.S. Army Medical Command

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries enrolled to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic at Aberdeen Proving Ground who live more than 30 minutes away, must have a drive-time access-to-care waiver signed by Oct. 1 to continue their current TRICARE Prime enrollment at KUSAHC.

Health Net Military Services, the Managed Care Support

Contractor for TRICARE in the North, is currently notifying non-active duty TRICARE Prime beneficiaries of a recent TRICARE Prime enrollment administrative requirement. This requirement supports both the beneficiaries' right to access-to-care and the Military Health System's need to know where TRICARE Prime beneficiaries

See **WAIVERS**, page 13



APG celebrates The Year of the NCO



ATC staff sergeant earns honor at Basic NCO Course

Grateful for chance to help today’s, tomorrow’s Soldiers

Story by
MIKE CAST
U.S. Army Developmental Test Command

A Soldier assigned to the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center for the past two years outpaced all but one competitor during a four-week Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course for transportation Soldiers at Fort Eustis, Va., earning the distinction of honor graduate.

Staff Sgt. Rhea Ball, whose military occupational specialty is 88 “Mike,” or truck driver, drove himself hard while at the school, passing all of the NCOs in his class except for one younger Soldier, who pulled ahead with slightly better scores to become distinguished honor graduate.

Ball, an Army Reservist with the 946th Transportation Company in Delaware when he took the assignment at ATC, said he was grateful to several people at the test center who paved the way for his course attendance, including Master Sgt. Jason Wyatt, his first-line supervisor; Master Sgt. James Orr, the NCO in charge of Soldiers at ATC; and Col. Jeffrey Holt, ATC’s commander.

Fueled by gratitude for what they had done for him, Ball was determined to cross the BNCOC finish line with distinction. As the driving force behind his enrollment at the school, Orr went the extra mile and then some to get him enrolled, Ball said. Orr also gave him some parting advice before he left for Fort Eustis.

“The last thing Master Sergeant Orr said to me before I left was, ‘Try to come back on the commandant’s list,’ and I told him I would do it,” Ball said. “How could I come back with anything less? A lot of guys who went there said, ‘Hey, I’m just going to get the 1059 [the Department of the Army’s Service School Academic Evaluation Report]. I couldn’t just do that, especially with this command and all they’ve done for me. So there was many a long night studying over my notes



Photo courtesy of U.S. ARMY
Staff Sgt. Rhea Ball of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center undergoes training at ATC’s Military Operations in Urban Terrain site.

and the books.”

By becoming an honor graduate, he exceeded the requirements for making the commandant’s list, which is the third level of distinction BNCOC graduates can attain. The hard work he put into becoming honor graduate – in the classroom, during hands-on exercises and in preparation for BNCOC’s physical fitness test – paid off, he said. While other attendees took time off from their studies to do some sightseeing over the weekends, Ball reserved that time for learning as much as he could to hone his NCO skills.

“I didn’t go down there to sightsee,” he explained. “We had two tests that were on a Monday, so I studied over the weekends. The more competitive you are, the better you do.”

Nonetheless, even studying didn’t make the exercises and tests easy, he said. A hands-on

convoy commander’s exercise was particularly challenging for BNCOC attendees, Ball said. The pace of activity during simulations of real-world missions was demanding.

“The first week was a lot of classroom stuff on transportation, and the second week we were in a simulator room, where we worked off of computer simulators, and once you had to be the convoy commander,” he explained. “You had to set up the whole mission, do your mission plan, do your briefing, and establish what vehicles go where and who goes in which vehicles. You also had to do security and things like that.”

Even though the convoy commander’s exercise was almost “overwhelming” at times, with one exercise scenario requiring him to manage 36 Soldiers in a convoy, Ball appreciated the skills it taught and reinforced,

training he appreciates because he is slated to deploy to Iraq at the end of this year with the 304th Transportation Company of Massachusetts, the Army Reserve unit to which he is currently assigned.

“They gave you your mission, and you had something like twenty-five minutes to put it all together, set up your vehicles and all,” he said of the BNCOC convoy commander’s training. “That was probably the toughest part. We had it for a week long, and we were doing something like four or five scenarios a day. Being that I’ve never done it before, I tried to get in as much time as convoy commander or assistant convoy as I could. Especially getting ready to go over to Iraq and run convoys, I wanted to get as much experience as a convoy commander as I could possibly get.”

The upcoming assignment in Iraq is not his first in that country, Ball said. While serving with the 946th Transportation Company, he deployed for his first tour to Iraq in October 2003. He had been in the active Army from 1981 to 1992, and he saw his enlistment in the Army Reserve in 2003 as an opportunity to serve the United States in a time of conflict.

“I worked for myself for about ten years after I got out of active duty, and I was in the position where I could come back in the reserves because I didn’t have any more employees,” he recalled.

While in Iraq, from October 2003 to February 2005, he served with the 302nd Transportation Company, an Army Reserve unit headquartered at Fort Eustis. The unit conducted operations in and around Balad. While there, he became a driver for an Iraqi civil defense corps, but he was also involved in training Iraqi soldiers.

“I was actually a driver for them, but we would go out and do foot patrols with them and teach them how to set up vehicle checkpoints and things

like that,” he said. “I did that for the whole time I was over there. The 82nd (Airborne Division) actually started (that mission), and I was with them at first over there. I think the 82nd left in April or May 2004, and a National Guard unit from California took over from the 82nd, so I just stayed on with them. We would teach the Iraqis different combative skills, even a little bit of public affairs. We would go out to the wire with them every day and do patrols of the local places around Balad. It was exciting. The unit I went over with, the 302nd Transportation Company, ran the Corps Disposition Center.”

Ball said he is prepared to return to Iraq and serve the United States again, and the skills he learned at BNCOC will stand him in good stead as he conducts the mission there.

He said his mission at ATC was one he feels privileged to have had, particularly from the Soldier’s perspective he could provide is key to helping the Army field systems that give Soldiers the edge on today’s and tomorrow’s battlefields. Soldier operators, maintainers, testers and evaluators have the personal experience to know how most Soldiers would be likely to use and maintain a military weapon system or piece of equipment, he said. Being able to provide that perspective made him eager to show up for work each morning.

“Even though we are not supposed to show up until eight o’clock, I get in at 6:30,” he said. “When a test comes, no matter how little or how simple it is, I give it one hundred and ten percent because that is why they brought me here. It could be anything from a hydration system to a barrier, and I needed to check every aspect of it and ask, ‘Is this something the Soldier would use, or is there a safety hazard here?’ It’s been the opportunity of a lifetime, probably the best job I’ve ever had – and one of the best commands.”

The backbone

By
REN DAIGRE
Master Sgt., U.S. Army, Ret.

Moving things forward in a job that has no end, the NCO is the one on whom the Army can depend. Marching to the beat like base drums tappin’, staying in step, keeping time, and making things happen.

Officers’ jobs are important too but they can’t do it alone; it’s tough running an army without its backbone. Superiors set policy to keep a firm grip; NCOs carry out orders and tactfully crack the whip.

If someone wants to lead, it takes a special breed, while putting Soldiers first, as it says in the NCO creed. When subordinates are deficient and refuse to do their best, NCOs drop them in the front leaning rest. Born logisticians moving mountains with their brains, all the while teaching as there’s always someone to train. Forever upholding the values we Americans hold dear, 2009 is special in an NCO’s career.

NCOs and officers must work hand-in-hand from basic training to Iraq, and the hills of Afghanistan. The NCO’s contributions are many and far-reaching; it’s hard not to learn, from someone who’s always teaching. Map reading, orienteering or just chewing the fat,

physical training, common tasks, or surviving in combat. Who better to train our warriors and make them understand; nothing is more important than defending the motherland.

From Lexington and Concord, our NCOs were on hand, Grenada, Panama and Kosovo and Custer’s Last Stand. Having no regard for fame or ambition, the NCO’s goal is to accomplish the unit’s mission. From infantry to ordnance, artillery to culinary, the NCO’s discipline is forever legendary. A teenager joins the ranks a regular Joe Blow, then he’s turned into a fighting machine by an Army NCO.

NCOs instill discipline and turn boys into men; there are no excuses when there is a country to defend. Making a kid a warrior is not always an easy chore, another selfless patriot down to his very core. Over on the battlefield a Soldier stays alive, all because an NCO taught him how to survive. Combatants return to their families with eyes all aglow, because they had training from an outstanding NCO.

NCOs are professionals who hold their heads high; they mastered the art of leadership and never asked why. Our army needs their skill and willingness to stay abreast; it also needs their ability to keep us at our best. A selfless acts of service is what they are all about, and their dedication to duty is never left to doubt. An NCO’s war face is scary and intense;

they never hesitate when our country requires defense.

With fierce determination, they lead without fear, so we celebrate the NCO throughout an entire year. Taking care of Soldiers and managing the mission too, they deserve recognition for all the work they do. They know America needs them, respects and holds them dear; a day was not enough so we gave them a whole year. Leadership is their watchword and their legend will never decline; our NCOs are special to us, especially in 2009.


(Editor’s note: Author is a retired U.S. Army Master Sergeant (E-8), with 21 years in the Ordnance Corps. He served as battalion motor sergeant and maintenance team chief in Bradley Fighting Vehicle equipped units in various assignments in Europe, Asia and the United States.

During a couple of his tours he was a training developer/writer at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

He attended school as an active duty NCO and took degrees from the University of Maryland and the University of Phoenix.

He retired from the Army at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1995.

He is currently a contractor technical writer for the Aberdeen Data Services Team, Science and Technology Corporation, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Automotive Directorate, Tactical Vehicles Division.)



APG News

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Make the right choice! Act to prevent!



ACS

Nationally, October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and this year’s Army theme is: Make the Right Choice! Act to Prevent!

The theme reinforces the Army’s Family Covenant commitment to Soldiers and their Families by encouraging everyone in the community to take an active role in the prevention of domestic violence.

“The Army Family Covenant commits the Army to provide Soldiers and their Families a quality of life equal to their service,” said Aida Rivera, Family advocacy program manager. “Domestic violence undermines that promise.”

The key to effectively preventing domestic violence in the Army is a firm commitment from command and

all members of the military community to assist in this effort. That’s why this year’s campaign has bystander intervention as one of its focal points.

“Everyone in the military community can be a bystander to domestic violence,” Rivera said. “Whether turning our backs on an abusive act and becoming part of the problem, or taking an active role in ensuring abuse is reported and becoming part of the solution, we all play a role.”

As part of the Army’s commemoration of this month, the ACS Family Advocacy Program will be providing activities and events designed to create awareness of domestic violence and inform the community of resources available to assist victims of abuse and hold offenders accountable.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Schedule of events (Cut out and save)

- Oct. 1: DVAM display, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic lobby
- Oct. 7: “Hands are Not for Hitting” Puppet Show, Aberdeen Area Child Development Center, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Oct. 13: Leader’s Course, Ball Conference Center, building 3074, 9 a.m. to noon
- Oct. 14: “Hands are Not for Hitting” Puppet Show, Edgewood Area CDC, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Oct. 15: Lunch Box: Anger Management, Aberdeen Area Army Community Services building, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Oct. 17: Commissary lobby, Information booth, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Oct. 20: DVAM special event: Parenting Game, Top of the Bay, 9 a.m. to noon, Parent Session; 1 to 5 p.m., Train the Trainer
- Oct. 27: Dating Violence, Aberdeen Area Child, Youth and School Services, 4 to 5 p.m.
- Oct. 29: Dating Violence, Edgewood Area CYS Services, 4 to 5 p.m.
- Oct. 31: PX lobby, Information booth, Aberdeen Area, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For additional information or to register for a class, contact the ACS FAP, 410-278-7478/2435.

Individual deployment discussion targets augmentee Families

Story by
CARROLL KIM
TRADOC

Spouses of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command commandants and command sergeants major have endured deployments and permanent changes of station among all the stresses that Army Families face, but at the TRADOC Senior Leaders Conference held in Gettysburg, Pa., on Aug. 20, they learned and brainstormed on how to reach Families affected by individual augmentee deployments.

“Individual augmentees are people whose Families are not geographically located near the unit they’re assigned to for the duration of the deployment,” said Lt. Col. Diane Cummins-Lefler, commander of the Individual Augmentee Deployment Support Group, or IADSG, which is part of the Training Support Battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. “Nearly every unit has augmentees assigned to them. The augmentees were probably assigned to a military transition team and now they’re placed elsewhere.

“Every unit has a Family readiness group,” she said. “But what happens when the FRG isn’t where you’re stationed? Where do you go? Who do you talk to?”

FRGs on installations are divided by units. Individual augmentees did not have an FRG and went without the network of other spouses in the same situation until the IADSG came along.

The IADSG is open to all branches of the military and provides opportunities and services for Families who are not specifically assigned to a rear detachment on their installation. But the IADSG is not recognized as an FRG, but rather as a support element.

With that unique task, one challenge in reaching out to these Families is

knowing who they are.

“Where we lose people in out-processing is that if the Family is leaving it doesn’t communicate to the ACS [Army Community Service] on the new post, then we can’t keep track of that Family - they have fallen through the cracks,” said Deanie Dempsey.

While out-processing through ACS is a requirement, it is often overshadowed by other priorities such as out-processing with the medical clinic or preparing a Family for a PCS move.

Other programs are available for Families through ACS, but before the IADSG was established, Families not assigned to a unit couldn’t receive the social and moral support of others in their position. IADSG works to bring individual augmentee Families together and ease a difficult transition.

Another place where IADSG is trying to meet these Families’ needs is getting the word out about their program.

“A Soldier may plan to come out to Leonard Wood by himself, but at the last minute, his Family chooses to join him because they like the school systems. And they won’t know about us until later down the line or until something hap-

pens,” Cummins-Lefler said.

“And if, God forbid, something happens, we have to be ready to get involved. We need to know where they are in case we need to find them,” Dempsey said.

To counteract these situations, Cummins-Lefler suggests word-of-mouth and getting connected with the on-post school and child-development centers as the best way of reaching Families. This may even require cultural change among spouses.

Vickie Johndrow used an anecdote to show how senior spouses are leading to change norms and break down barriers to ensure Families are being cared for.

“I once had a lieutenant’s wife and an enlisted Soldier’s wife who wanted to be best friends, but they weren’t sure they could do it because of their husbands’ ranks,” she said. “There’s a stigma that’s going on and the gap is being closed, but we have to [continue to work at] this.”

Another concern for a TRADOC IADSG is funding and staffing.

“TRADOC has a smaller budget for these programs, whereas [U.S. Army Forces Command] gets a lot more resources and support,” Cummins-Lefler said.

While the IADSG is being supplemented by donations, fundraising and volunteer efforts, limited resources mean that spouses are encouraged to get creative with programs and partner with other groups on post like ACS and Child, Youth and School Services.

As the discussion drew to a close, the 42 women were reminded of the importance of reaching out and supporting Families.

“This is just a piece of what we can do to make sure our Soldiers and their Families are taken care of,” said Alex Laidlaw. “Our job is to know that there are people in these positions. We’re not going to find the perfect situation, but with all these pieces in place, we’re going to catch as many as we can.”



Aberdeen Proving Ground acquired 16 fuel efficient Ford Fusion Hybrid vehicles this year from the General Services Agency, the agency responsible for issuing government vehicles.

APG acquires fuel efficient hybrid vehicles

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

In keeping with the Army’s commitment to be a good steward of its resources and responsibilities, the Army has acquired 502 Hybrid Electric Vehicles this year, making the Army the leader in utilizing HEVs among all federal agencies.

Gene Schneck, the director of Logistics, said that Aberdeen Proving Ground has acquired 16 Ford Fusion Hybrid vehicles from the General Services Agency, the agency responsible for issuing government vehicles.

Schneck added that the benefit of these vehicles is that they reduce fossil fuel consumption and minimize the cost impact that energy has upon the operations budget. Hybrid vehicles average 40 miles per gallon, thus lowering fuel costs and reducing “green house” gas emissions in many cases more than 50 percent.

George Angelucci, Transportation Motor Pool chief, added that APG may receive more vehicles in the future.

“Based on this administration’s interest in reducing fossil fuel, I am pretty sure that APG will receive more HEVs in the future,” Angelucci said.

The Army is employing HEVs to

help meet Congressional legislative requirements, which mandate a two-percent reduction in fossil fuel annually through the year 2015.

By partnering with industry, the Army can help foster a market for alternative and renewable forms of energy such as HEVs.

Through continued research and development, the technology may be utilized on the battlefield in the future. Army staff estimates that a one percent reduction of fuel consumption in theater means roughly 6,000 fewer Soldier fuel convoys. This translates into potentially fewer lives lost during operations to protect fuel.

“The Army is a progressive, forward-leaning institution. We strive always to be on the cusp of positive change,” said Dennis Bohannon, director of Strategic Communications for Installation Management Command in a strategic communication plan signed by Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. “Energy security is operationally necessary, financially prudent, and legislatively required, and it corresponds well with the Army’s historic role of leading America in to the future.”

A Sustainable Energy Future

WE’RE PUTTING ALL THE PIECES TOGETHER

Be part of the solution to climate change and help build a clean energy economy.

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Energy

From front page

everyone — the federal government, private industry and the public — have the means to shape America’s energy future and move the nation toward energy independence.

Executive Order 13423 (EO 13423) and The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 charges the federal government to significantly improve energy and water management in order to save taxpayer dollars, conserve resources and reduce environmentally harmful emissions. Additionally, the Army is actively supporting projects that provide energy from solar, wind, biomass and geothermal sources as well as using alternative fuel solutions for transportation.

“As energy users, we all have the power and responsibility to achieve the energy reduction goals established in EO 13423,” said Business Management Division Chief Robin Hooray. “But these goals, combined with additional facilities resulting from base realignment and closure actions, put Aberdeen Proving Ground in a complex situation.

“Meeting our growing energy needs will require creativity, determination, and discipline. But, working together, we can maintain our quality of life while improving our environment leaving behind a safer, cleaner, more prosperous world for future generations.”

For more information on Army energy initiatives and programs, visit the Army Energy program homepage, <http://army-energy.hqda.pentagon.mil/>.

Ten best technologies recognized by Army

Story and photo by
C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

Combat gauze, the Common Remotely Operated Weapons System and a new machine-gun cradle were among technologies recognized by the U.S. Army Materiel Command during the “Top Ten Great Inventions of 2008” event at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Washington, D.C.

The event, held yearly since 2002, celebrates the best technological advances in the Army.

Criteria for being selected includes impact on Army capability, potential for benefit outside the Army and inventiveness. Additionally, all the technology nominated must have been fielded during 2008.

It’s actually Soldiers in theater who pick the winners.

“We have Soldier panels, from the active divisions of the Army ... review all the nominations and vote on them,” said Donald W. Matts Jr. of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, who headed up the “Top Ten” program this year.

This year it was Soldiers from the 1st Armored Division, the 82nd Airborne Division and the 25th Infantry Division who participated in the voting, Matts said.

“Each of the winners gets a trophy and plaque for their team, and even the ones who haven’t won in the top ten -- they are winners too -- they’ve all fielded products the Soldiers are using in the field today,” he said.

The Common Remotely Operated Weapons System, or CROWS, was one of the 10 chosen this year as the best. The system allows a gun to be attached to a remotely controlled swivel. It also includes multiple cameras and allows the Soldier to stay inside the vehicle, while the remotely controlled weapon does the dangerous work on the outside -- exposed to insurgents and their improvised explosive devices.

“It’s all about Soldier protection,” said Michael Scott, of RDECOM. “It definitely saves Soldiers lives. The thought is to get the Soldier under armor and let him fire his weapon from the safety of being buttoned up in the vehicle.”

The CROWS is now on more than 700 vehicles in both Iraq and Afghanistan, including the mine resistant ambush protected vehicle, the high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle and the Abrams tank, Scott said. New systems are being



The Common Remotely Operated Weapons System, or CROWS, is one of 10 Army technologies chosen as the “Top Ten Great Inventions of 2008.”

fielded at a rate of about 20 a week.

With that exposure in the field, Scott said, evidence has come back that shows it does what it’s meant to do -- save lives.

“With IED blasts, this system has come back basically in a bucket,” he said. “If a Soldier was up there out of the hatch and his gun up on a pencil mount, he would be taking the shrapnel, not the system. So, the feedback is pretty good.”

Also protecting Soldiers is a new set of armor for the MRAP. The “Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Expedient Armor Program Add-on-Armor Kit,” or MEAP (AoA), was meant to protect MRAPs from explosively formed penetrators.

The EFP is a new, deadlier weapon employed by insurgents, said Debbie DiCesare with the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center.

“We have a charge to provide protection against medium explosively formed penetrators in theater in Iraq,” she said. “And it’s a particularly lethal threat.”

DiCesare and her team, without manufacturer-provided engineering data for MRAP, devised for the vehicles a new form of protection to save Soldiers’ lives.

“We fabricated the parts and integrated it onto the vehicle and did all that in six weeks,” she said.

A lot of testing went into the armor stateside, and today it’s fitted to some 550 vehicles. But DiCesare said the real measure of success comes from the field.

“In my mind, it’s when you get the e-mail back from the Soldier that says ‘thanks for doing this, because it saved my life,’” DeCesare said is the best reward. “We’ve gotten e-mails and some letters. That’s probably the most rewarding part.”

When Soldiers do get hurt, there’s Combat Gauze -- an inexpensive, lightweight, effective way to stop arterial bleeding. The gauze is impregnated with kaolin, a type of clay, known for the way it helps the body clot faster -- and stop bleeding.

“It’s a hemostatic dressing, a very simple device, easy to use,” said Dr. Michael Dubick, Army Institute of Surgical Research. “The important thing is that unlike other products that have been deployed, this one will stop an arterial hemorrhage. It’s effective, and it seems to be safe.”

Fielding on the combat gauze is pretty new now, Dubick said, and not a lot has come back from theater. But Dubick says he’s heard of at least one report from Soldiers that it was effective -- and three additional reports from civilian trauma centers, who are also using it.

A total of 10 technologies were named this year as the “Top 10 Greatest Inventions of 2008.” Each team was presented with a trophy and a plaque, commemo-

rating their effort.

Top 10
U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center

- XM-153 Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS)
- Projectile Detection Cueing (PDCue) - Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS) Lightning
- Light Machine Gun & Medium Machine Gun Cradle
- Overhead Cover for Objective Gunner Protection Kit

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center

- Enhanced Mobile Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment Vehicle

U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center

- Whisper

U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research

- Combat Gauze for Treating Hemorrhage in Injured Soldiers

U.S. Army Research Laboratory

- Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected Armor Weight Reduction Spiral Program

U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center

- Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Expedient Armor Program Add-on-Armor Kit
- One System Remote Video Terminal A-kit

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-278-5327, fax 410-278-9176, or e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Vicki Bailey	Meg Downey	Marie D. Nowak
Debra Bonsall	Wayne Erb	Ron Spencer
(daughter has brain tumor)	Dawn Folck	Joyce Steininger
Georgia Braun	Rita Fowler	Linda Tabaka
Veronica Brown	John Furchert	linda Tignor
Randy Carroll	Holly Geppi	Luis Villafane
Brenda Clayton	Erin Griffin	Veronica Yates-Sparks
John Daigle	Kari Jackson	Carolyn Zalepa
Bonnie Day	Angela Lambert	Barbara Zenker
	Deborah Moore	



Legally Speaking



Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/Staff_Judge/index.html

Knowing what to expect at Magistrate Court on APG

OSJA

Situation: You are an Army civilian employee working at Aberdeen Proving Ground. You are running a little late for work today, so you try to make up time between the post gate and your office, but blue lights appear in the rear view mirror and you end up with a speeding ticket. How are such things handled on a military installation? Since APG is a federal installation under federal jurisdiction, such offenses are adjudicated in Magistrate Court.

What is Magistrate Court?

The APG Magistrate Court is a federal court program that operates on the installation in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney’s office. The magistrate judge is a judicial officer of the U.S. District Court assigned by the U.S. District Judge of their judicial district, and exercises the jurisdiction delegated to him or her by law. Unlike federal judges, who are appointed to life terms by the president, magistrate judges are appoint-

ed by the federal judges of their judicial district for a term of service of eight years (four years for part-time magistrate judges).

The prosecutor at APG Magistrate Court is sworn as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney and is given the authority to prosecute certain categories of crimes and violations that occur on APG. All driving related offenses that occur on APG are sent to Magistrate Court. In addition, Magistrate Court handles all misdemeanor cases of misconduct involving civilians.

How does a Magistrate Court case get initiated?

Once an APG law enforcement officer stops a driver for speeding or some other violation, they will be issued an 1850, commonly referred to as a violation notice or ticket. Some tickets do not require a court appearance. If the ticket is “payable,” the offender can choose to simply admit guilt and send in a payment by mail, or come to court and con-

test the charge before the magistrate court judge.

A “mandatory” ticket requires the individual to appear in court. If a court appearance is chosen or required, the initial appearance is called the arraignment. At the arraignment the offender is advised of the charges pending and the maximum possible penalty. Since the penalty on a mandatory ticket could be jail, the person has the right to be represented by an attorney; an attorney of the individual’s choice can be hired or one can be appointed from the Federal Public Defenders Office. The judge will then set a trial date.

Day in court

When the offender returns to court for trial, the court will ask the individual to enter a plea: guilty, not guilty, or no contest. If pleading guilty, the prosecutor reads a statement into the record, the judge finds the offender guilty, and then proceeds with sentencing. If pleading not guilty, there is a contested trial

with witness testimony and the presentation of evidence. If pleading no contest the offender is not admitting guilt, but admits that the evidence against them is sufficient for a court to find the person guilty. Before sentencing, the offender is allowed to present any evidence to the court that could mitigate possible punishment.

The maximum punishment that Magistrate Court can impose is up to 12-months confinement and a \$1,000 fine.

The judge then enters final disposition and the case is closed.

Keep in mind, however, that Magistrate Court is distinct from any administrative actions that commanders may take based upon the misconduct that sends someone to court. For example, the same offense that landed a person in Magistrate Court could serve as the basis for being barred from the installation.

For more information, contact the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 410-378-1581.

Misusing Workers’ Comp a federal offense

Law calls for imprisonment and substantial fines

Story by
CATRINA FRANCIS
Turret

When federal employees are injured while performing their assigned duties, Chapter 81 Title 5 of the United States Code provides compensation for those injuries.

But in some cases, employees misuse the Workers’ Compensation system. Doing so constitutes a crime and is punishable by fine, incarceration, or both.

Capt. Raymond Adams, the Fort Knox special assistant U.S. attorney, said the law is specific about fraudulently obtaining Workers’ Compensation.

Making a false statement or committing fraud to obtain federal compensation is covered under Title 18 of the United States Code section 1920.

He pointed out that the code states, “Whoever knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up a material fact, or makes a false statement on applicant for or receipt of compensation or other benefit or payment under Chapter 81 Title 5, shall be imprisoned for not more than five years.”

If the fraud constitutes a felony, added Adams, the fine can’t exceed \$250,000, and can be added to the prison sentence.

“That’s primarily the statute that is specific to false statements or fraud associated with obtaining federal employee compensation,” Adams said. “That’s not necessarily the only statutes that can be looked at when prosecuting someone.”

Adams said another statute that can be used to prosecute fraud is Title 18 Section 287 of the United States Code entitled false, fictitious or fraudulent claims.

“Whoever makes or presents to any person or officer in the service of the United States, or to any department or agency thereof, knowing such claims to be false, fictitious, or fraudulent, shall be imprisoned not more than five years and a fine of two hundred fifty thousand dollars if it’s a felony or both,” explained Adams.

Employees who receive Workers’ Compensation must fill out an annual recertification on CA Form 1032. Adams said the form is used to disclose any oth-

er sources of income.

Adams said anyone who fraudulently conceals or fails to report additional income or other information, or makes a false statement of a material fact in claiming payments or benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Phil Chance, the chief of the Criminal Law Division at the U.S. Attorney Office for the Western District of Kentucky in Louisville, said that when employees fraudulently apply for Workers’ Compensation, they sometimes commit multiple violations. The employee can be charged with making a fictitious claim, and there’s the possibility of adding mail fraud once the CA Form 1032 is mailed.

Chance added that can happen if an employee is receiving payment for different injuries at different times.

“It’s not unusual to charge multiple charges in the same charging instrument,” said Chance. “If you commit multiple violations, the penalties do stack. If you commit two felonies, you could be subject to a five hundred thousand dollar fine.”

He also said a judge has the discretion to impose a fraction of a penalty or the maximum under the sentencing guidelines.

When employees apply for Workers’ Compensation, Chance said, there has to be a certain degree of trust.

“If everyone was equally truthful we wouldn’t need fraud statutes,” he explained. “The bottom line is a program like this is very largely dependent upon (employee) integrity. Unfortunately you have people who want to cheat the system. That’s why we have fraud statutes.”



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apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil)**

Lights, camera, action at APG



Photo by RACHEL PONDER, APG NEWS
Brent Horst, left, playing Cpl. Lucas, is preparing for a scene opposite Cederick Stewart, right, playing Sgt. 1st Class Brick. Carlos Candelario, center, a production assistant, helps set up the scene. The production crew is filming a scene in Garrison Headquarters, building 305, for WILL interactive, a media company that produces Virtual Experience Immersive Learning Simulations, known as VEILS that allow people to become the lead characters in movies, make real-life decisions, take real-life risks, and experience the consequences of their actions in the safety of cyberspace. WILL interactive shot the Warrior Psychological Health simulation the week of Sept. 14 on Aberdeen Proving Ground and nearby locations.

Law school available to junior officers

Installation Legal Office

The Office of the Judge Advocate General is now accepting applications for the Army’s Funded Legal Education program. Under this program, up to 25 Army officers may be selected to attend law school at government expense while on active duty.

Selected participants in the FLEP will attend law school at either their state’s supported school or a school that grants military members in-state tuition beginning the fall of 2009 and remain on active duty while attending law school.

Interested officers should review Chapter 14, AR 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General’s Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility.

This program is open only to active duty commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain and applicant must have at least two but not more than six years of active duty at the time legal training commences.

Further eligibility requirements are governed by statute (10 U.S.C. 2004) and are non-waiverable.

Selected officers will attend law school at a state-supported school in their state of residence or a school that grants military members in-state tuition. Register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.

Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer’s branch manager at Army Human Resources Command, with a copy furnished to the Office of the Judge Advocate General, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Yvonne Caron-10th Floor), 1777 North Kent Street, Rosslyn, VA 22209-2194, to be received before Nov. 1.

Submission of the application well in advance of the deadline is advised.

Interested officers should contact Maj. Richard Hatfield, deputy staff judge advocate, or Nora L. Farrell, para-legal specialist, 410-278-1112/1107, respectively.

Community Notes

**THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY
OCTOBER 1 THRU 4
CONSTELLATION ENERGY
SENIOR PLAYERS
CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Constellation Energy Senior Players Championship will be held, at the Baltimore Country Club, Timonium. Active duty, retired personnel and reservists in all branches of the Armed Forces from military installations in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. region can enter the tournament for free. All military personnel must have a valid ID, including Family members. Armed Forces personnel must present their identification card at the gate in exchange for a grounds ticket. American Public University System will sponsor a hospitality tent located adjacent to the 17th tee. Complimentary food and beverage service and a large screen television will be offered to all Armed Forces members in attendance. Additional tickets may be purchased in advance for \$20 plus shipping and handling, or for \$30 at the gate. For more information or to purchase advance tickets, call 410-853-7064 or visit www.ceseniorplayers.com.

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 2
BASKET BINGO**

Basket bingo to benefit Aberdeen Middle School will be held at the school, located on 111 Mount Royal Avenue, Aberdeen. Doors open 6 p.m.; bingo starts 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 each; extra packets cost \$5. Bring a canned good or non-perishable food item for a bonus prize ticket. This is a non-smoking event. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Brenda Conjour, 410-278-7332.

**FRIENDSHIP PLAYERS
PRESENT ALTAR EGOS**

The Friendship Players will present Altar Egos, a dinner theater, 6:30 p.m., at the Fallston United Methodist Church located on 1509 Fallston Road.

Opening night (tonight) includes free pizza, a movie and child care for children ages 3 to 8 with advanced reservations if parents are attending the dinner theater. Cost of admission is \$20 per person in advance if reserved in August and \$25 per person if bought after August. Individual seats or tables of 8 or 10 are available. There is a \$25 discount for 10 (\$225) if reserved ahead as a group. Advanced reservations are required. Menu includes ham, homemade seafood casserole, chicken, string beans, carrots, parsley potatoes, pineapple casserole, salad, rolls and desserts. Proceeds benefit Fallston United Methodist Church. For more information, for reservations or to make a donation to the Friendship Players, call Jane, 410-877-7630.

**ABERDEEN AUSA CHAPTER
FIRST ANNUAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

The Aberdeen Chapter of AUSA will hold a golf tournament at Ruggles Golf Course, check-in time 7:30 a.m. with a Shotgun Start at 8:30 a.m. Scramble format. Cost is \$100 per player and includes awards, lunch and prizes. Prizes include first, second and third place; closest to the pin and longest drive. Make checks payable to AUSA Aberdeen. The proceeds will benefit the Fisher House Foundation. The Fisher House Foundation provides lodging for Soldiers' Families while they visit their wounded Soldier in an Army specialized hospital. Tournament sponsorship opportunities are available. Mulligans will be sold and the Bel Air Kiwanis Club will match the funds raised. Those funds will go to purchase specific items to ship to specific Soldiers in theater. For more information or to register, call Clark Dutterer, 410-273-7722.

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 3
INSIDEYARD SALE**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 201 Mt.

Royal Avenue, Aberdeen, will hold an InsideYard Sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds benefits St. Paul's Mission. **ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMORY WALK** The Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk® event will be held 10 a.m. at the Bel Air Equestrian Center, 608 N. Tollgate Road, Bel Air. Registration begins 9 a.m. This year's walk will have a new and expanded route and will be held rain or shine. There will be Family entertainment and light refreshments. All Memory Walk donations benefit the Alzheimer's Association, the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer care, support and research. For more information, call 410-561-9099, e-mail Rolanda.Oliver@alz.org or visit <http://www.kintera.org/FAF/home/default.asp?ievent=302408>. **TRAIL TOTS** Let's go explore! The children will focus on the falling leaves. This free program will be held 10 to 11 a.m. for ages up to 4. Registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688. **BEYOND THE BRIDGE PONTON BOAT RIDE**

Take advantage of a very low tide to squeeze under the railroad bridge and escape to the lower regions of the Bush River. This program will be held 2 to 4 p.m. for ages 30 lbs. to adult. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$5 for children. Registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688. **FULL HARVEST MOON CANOE** The moon, the tides and the calendar have come together to make possible another enchanting nighttime paddle on the creek. Harvest memories of beavers, owls and the moonshine on the water. This program will be held

6:30 to 9 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Registration is required. For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 4
ANNUAL RIDE FOR LIFE
MOTORCYCLE AND MUSIC
EVENT**

The 4th Annual "Ride for Life" Motorcycle and Music Event will be held 9 to 6:30 p.m. Registration begins 9 a.m. The ride begins at the Baltimore Child Abuse Center, 2300 North Charles Street. Line up will be on 23rd Street between Maryland Avenue and Charles Street. There will be a 60-mile police escorted scenic ride through Baltimore and Harford counties. The ride will end at the Parkville American Legion, 2301 Putty Hill Ave, Parkville. Cost to participate is \$20 rider donation, \$5 for passengers and a \$5 donation for non-riders at the post event. The event also includes food, beverages, vendors, silent auction and music by Bucky's Brother, the Bristol's, Wild Rice and the Drunken Uncles. Proceeds will benefit the Baltimore Child Abuse Center as one of its largest fund raising events of the year. For more information, call 410-396-6147 or visit www.theride4life.info. **NATURETALES - SPIDERS** Come explore nature through a story. Listen to a tale about an animal or a habitat. Story time may include meeting a live critter, a simple craft or acting out the story. This free program will be held 2 p.m. for all ages. No registration required. For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

Post Shorts

ext 363. State and or federal photo ID required. For more information, see front page of Sept. 24 issue of *APG News*, www.apgnews.army.mil.

Issues needed for upcoming AFAP Conference

The Army Family Action Plan processes, reviews, prioritizes and resolves issues solicited from the community. Members of the community submit issues and participate in prioritizing them at the annual AFAP Conference Oct. 6 through 8. Issues beyond the scope of the local level are sent to the Regional AFAP Conference. Input is needed from Soldiers, civilian employees, Family members, retirees and youth. Issues may be in any area affecting members of the military community that affect well-being. For more in-depth information on how and what to submit, see the Aug. 27 issue of *APG News*, page 3, www.apgnews.apg.army.mil. For more information, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669 or e-mail marilyn.e.howard@us.army.mil.

KUSAHC closed Oct. 12

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed Oct. 12 in observance of Columbus Day. Patients should plan accordingly to pick up prescriptions prior to this date. For medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, contact Staff Duty at 410-278-1725. The Staff Duty Officer will coordinate patient's care with the Medical Officer of the Day. To avoid Point of Service copayment charges, patients will need authorization and/or a referral to go to any urgency clinic. Emergency Rooms do not require a referral.

**Military Police
Remembrance ceremony
Oct. 9**

The U.S. Army Military Police Corps Regiment will honor, at a wreath-laying and remembrance ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, those military police Soldiers and Soldiers performing MP-related duties, who were killed in action. The event will be hosted by Brig. Gen. Rodney Johnson, the provost marshal general of the Army and commanding general of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command on Oct. 9. A wreath will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknowns at 7:30 a.m. followed by a remembrance ceremony at the Military Police Memorial (Site 55) at 8 a.m.


All members, Family and friends of the regiment are invited to attend and pay tribute to the Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The featured guest speaker is retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mark L. Farley. Attire for military attendees is the duty uniform; civilians may wear business attire. RSVP to Maj. Steve Yamashita at stenven.g.yamashita@us.army.mil. **BJ's membership sale** BJ's Wholesale Club offers a 15-month membership, to include two cards for \$35 for all civilian and military personnel, retirees and contract employees. Sign up for membership from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 8, at the Bowling Center, building 2342 and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 13, at the Southside Grill in the Edgewood Arealocated in the Stark Recreation Center, building E-4140. This offer is good for new customers and for membership renewals. Save \$10 and get three months free. Renewal membership holders should bring their current card with them.

**U.S. Army card game
marching onto PX shelves**

The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, 4th and 3rd Infantry Divisions as well as a host of Cavalry and Mountain Divisions are rolling into PXs as an updated version of the classic "War" card game gets an Army makeover. Developed using the U.S. Army brand guidelines, the new, Top Trumps series <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aafespa/3941005071/sizes/o/> comes with stats, pictures and facts on units ranging from the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment to the 10th Mountain Division. Each card profiles an Army element and includes specifics such as the year founded, manpower and a brief description of each division, regiment and brigade's unique function. The U.S. Army Top Trumps series is now available at more than 100 AAFES PXs and Shoppettes throughout the Continental United States, Pacific and Europe.

**CFC preparing for silent
auction, seeks items**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign office is seeking more donations for the Online Silent Auction to raise money to support Combined Federal Campaign charities. The APG CFC is seeking items in good condition such as sports memorabilia, antiques/collectibles, gift cards, Christmas crafts, home craft ceramics, paintings and much more. Donated items



Chapel News

Commentary: My Mountain

By
CHAP (LT COL) JEFF ZUST
RDECOM

"Lord in your favor you made my mountain secure, when you hid your face -- I was troubled." Psalm 30:7

I love that phrase "my mountain," it reminds of being a kid and becoming "king of the mountain." Well, only for a little while -- until my cousin "Big Rob" came along and knocked me off my perch.

I think we're all like that at times - in our areas we rule "our mountains," and we should take pride in our positions and enjoy the view.

However, King David reminds us that our positions are secured by God. Experience tells us that there is much beyond our

for the auction and winning bids may be tax deductible. It is voluntary to donate to APG CFC Office. Items will be accepted at Top of the Bay Down Under 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Online Silent Auction is underway.

Book/DVD Fair

APG CFC office is seeking used or new books/DVD/tapes for the APG CFC Book Fair beginning Oct. 1, today. It is voluntary to donate to the APG CFC Office. Items can be accepted at Top of the Bay Down Under basement 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**APG Annual Hispanic
Heritage observance Oct. 14**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Annual Hispanic Heritage Observance will be held 11 a.m., Oct. 14, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. The guest speaker will be Commissioner Maria T.P. Johnson, Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Baltimore. There will be entertainment, food tasting and displays. For more information, call Linda Patrick, 410-436-1023 or Sgt. 1st Class Elwood Veney, 410-436-5051.

**SAPG holds Retiree
Appreciation Day, Oct. 17**

Military retirees and their Families are invited to attend the annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 a.m. to noon, Oct. 17, in the APG Recreation Center, build-

ing 3326. The program will include a guest speaker, vendor tables, representations from military associations and support services from the installation. For more information, contact Retiree Council Chairman, retired Lt. Col. Joe Traino, 410-436-6471 or e-mail joseph.anthony.traino@us.army.mil; Co-Chairman, retired Sgt. 1st Class Richard Zalusky, 410-278-5036 or e-mail richard.zalusky@us.army.mil or Retirement Services Officer retired Sgt. Maj. Drew Nobles, 410-306-2320 or e-mail drew.nobles@us.army.mil. The APG Retiree Council Web Site is also available at <http://apgretiree.com>. Any questions or comments concerning retiree issues can be e-mailed to info@apgretiree.com. **BOSS holds Haunted House** Better Opportunities for Single Solders will sponsor a BOSS Haunted House, 5 to 10 p.m., Oct. 24, and 1 to 6 p.m., Oct. 25, at Child, Youth and School Services, building 2522. The event includes face painting, ring toss, pumpkin carving contest, magic show, pie in the face, balloon dart toss and more. Tickets cost \$.50 each. Individuals will need 3 to 4 tickets per event/activity. For more information, call Spcs. Francisco Rios, 410-436-4335; Shar-ia Leal, 410-436-8587; or Jessica Fulda, 410-298-3000.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

Hearts Apart Support Group meets

Hearts Apart Support Group is one way to stay connected in the community and learn what Army Community Service has to offer the Family. Family members from all branches of service, Department of Defense civilians and contractors may participate in Hearts Apart Support Group meetings held in the APG Army Community Service building 2754, Rodman Road 6 to 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month (Oct. 7, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2).

At the October meeting, Aida Rivera, ACS Family Advocacy program manager and Installation Sexual Assault Response coordinator, will speak on "Keeping Your Love Alive at a Distance."

"Keeping romance going strong in a marriage in today's busy world can be a challenge," Rivera said. "The challenge is even greater when a spouse is deployed. Join us for a Hearts Apart specially designed to keep the spark in your marriage going despite deployment and temporary duty travel."

Kenya Procter, Installation Victim Advocate coordinator, has been requested to do another segment of her "50 Ways to Manage Your Stress" class, which is scheduled for the Nov. 4 meeting.

For more information, call or visit building 2754, Rodman Road, 410-278-7478 or DSN 298-7478.

Youth Basketball registration

APG Youth basketball registration will take place Oct. 15 through Nov. 9 at building 2752, Rodman Road. Walk-in registration will be held 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.; after 10:30 a.m., call for an appointment at 410-278-7571. To register for the Edgewood Area Youth Center pro-

ACS holds parenting classes

Story by

AIDA RIVERA

Army Community Service

Raising children is no easy task. It requires lots of empathy, a sense of humor, skill, knowledge, love, compassion, the patience of a saint and the determination of a bulldozer.

The job description is endless. The instructions on how to get the job done right don't arrive with the baby when he or she is born, so most parents learn through trial and error. All parents can use a little help, encouragement, and understanding in an atmosphere that lets them know that they are not alone.

The ACS Family Advocacy Program provides the nurturing and posi-

tive learning environment parents need to foster successful parenting.

FAP parenting classes are designed to help parents learn effective communication, conflict-resolution, problem-solving, decision-making, and behavior management skills. They also help parents learn about self-awareness, empathy, the ages and stages of child development, the goals of misbehavior, natural and logical consequences, discipline techniques that work, and most importantly, how to get on the same sheet of music with the other parent.

"We provide parents with the tools necessary to create positive and productive child-parent relationships," Aida Rivera, FAP manager, said. "The more

parents know about effective ways to rear their children, the less stressed out they will be, the happier and healthier the family will be."

FAP parenting sessions

For parents of children ages birth through 6:

Oct. 27 thru Dec. 1, Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., ACS, building 2754, Aberdeen Area

For parent of children ages 6 through 12:

Oct. 8 thru Nov. 12, Thursdays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., ACS, building 2754, Aberdeen Area

To register for classes, or for additional information, contact FAP, 410-278-7478.

gram, call John Lee, 410-436-731.

There will be league teams for ages 7 to 8 (boys and girls); 9 to 10; 11 to 12; and 13 to 14 (age as of Dec. 31, 2009). Cost to join a league is \$45 per person; the clinic costs \$35 per person.

A clinic will be held for ages 4 to 6 (age as of Dec. 31, 2009).

Practices will be held weeknights. Games will be held Saturdays beginning Jan. 2. Volunteers are needed.

For more information, e-mail: William.Kegley@us.army.mil or call 410-306-2297.

CDC implements Army's Strong Beginnings for Pre-K children

The Aberdeen and the Edgewood Area Child Development Centers will be implementing the Army's Strong Begin-

nings Pre-K program for children who turned 4 before Sept. 1, 2009. The children enrolled in the centers will automatically participate in this program.

Strong Beginnings Pre-K is a program designed to prepare children to be successful to enter school. The curriculum focuses on the social, emotional and physical development of children. It is a basic academic program to enhance school readiness. Children will participate in a variety of activities to include the Smart Start Sport program, there will be SKIES JR classes offered as well.

If there is interest, a part-day program will be offered to children from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Aberdeen Center. The centers look forward to an exciting school year for the children.

For more information, call Ruth Strauss, Aberdeen Area CDC director, 410-278-7111.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

See the Rockettes perform in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular at the 1st Mariner Arena, 201 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore. There will be two shows, 4 or 7 p.m., Dec. 17. Tickets cost \$76.75 for adults and \$67.75 for children ages 2 through 12. Children ages 2 and under do not need a ticket if seated on a parent's lap. All tickets must be pre-ordered. Tickets are limited and are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Seats are located in the lower lev-

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

Smart Start Your Business seminars

The ACS Employment Readiness Program in partnership with Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union and Harford Community College Small Business Development Center sponsors Smart Start Your Business seminars. This free 90-minute orientation program provides an overview of the ways to start a business, the skills and duties of a successful entrepreneur and how to write a strategic business plan.

Seminars will be held 12:30 to 1 p.m., Oct. 7 and Oct. 14. Space is limited.

For more information or to RSVP, call Marilyn Howard, 410-278-9669/7572. Other services offered by the SBDC are also discussed.



guidance on preparing a resume, and teach them interview techniques as well as give them work experience in their chosen field. Children will receive a stipend for their work at the end of the term.

Teen Financial Management Workshop

A Teen Financial Management Workshop will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m., Oct. 7, at Child, Youth and School Services, building 2752. Spaces are limited.

For more information, call Jay McKinney, 410-278-3250 or e-mail jay.mckinney@us.army.mil.

UMBC Campus Tour

There will be a University of Maryland, Baltimore County Campus Tour, 9 a.m., Oct. 3 for high school teens only. Sign up at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center and bring money for lunch. Spaces are limited.

You have the Job, Now Keep it

There will be workshop training, 10 to 11 a.m., Oct. 17, at Aberdeen Area Youth Services.

For more information, call Jay McKinney, 410-278-3250, or e-mail jay.mckinney@us.army.mil.



Experience, Develop, Grow and Excel in FMWR partner facilities.

Let's have some fun cooking!

Youths ages 11 to 18 will learn to cook a complete meal for their Family at Top of the Bay. Free cooking classes will be held 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays, Oct. 28 through Nov. 20.

To register, sign up at the CYSS Central Registration, building 2752. For more information, contact Chuck Rose, 410-278-1399 or e-mail chuck.rose@us.army.mil.

HIRED!

HIRED!, a new Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program for teens ages 15 to 18, is an apprentice program where teens can explore positions in FMWR facilities.

The program will give teens guidance on preparing a resume, and teach them interview techniques as well as give them work experience in their chosen field. Children will receive a stipend for their work at the end of the term.

The EDGE

The EDGE Program is designed to highlight opportunities for children and youths in grades 1 through 12, to

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Lunchtime Parent Training - Everyday Math Made Easy

Dr. Pamela Tabor will share Everyday Math Curriculum being used in the Harford County Public School system, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 6, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522. Tabor, a math specialist at Royce-Williams Elementary School, will explain the focus algorithms for parents in a simple yet thorough manner. She will provide homework help and information on how to prepare for/and interpret the assessments. Parents will be given special Web sites for Everyday Math games. The class is free and free pizza will be provided.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-278-4685.

Private guitar lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 through 18 will be held 3:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesdays or Fridays, Oct. 30 through Dec. 18, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

An award-winning singer/songwriter will instruct students. No experience necessary.

Cost of the lessons is \$102 per student

and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks, once a week. Students must provide their own guitar and also are required to purchase books required for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Books are a one-time purchase. Parents can choose which time frame session they want to sign up for when they register their child. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Basic Arts and Crafts Class

Basic Arts and Crafts will be taught on Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for ages 6 thru 10; and 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. for ages 11 thru 15, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Children will learn about the art of other cultures and famous artists. They will explore art techniques, processes, and mediums through a variety of activities, including painting, drawing, print-making and paper mache.

Cost is \$100 per student.

Driver's Ed

Driver's Ed classes will be held Oct. 5 thru 20; Oct. 26 thru Nov. 10; Nov. 16 thru Dec. 2; and Dec. 7 thru Dec. 22 (There is no class on federal holidays). Classes will be held Monday thru Thursday, 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. and 6 to 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$315 per student.

All Drivers Education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Classes will be held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia

Boulevard, room 304.

Classes include 30 hours classroom instruction and 6 hours behind the wheel instruction.

The last day to register for class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between the ages of 15.9 and 18 years old. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID card holders.

Prices subject to change without notice.

Toddler Art

Calling all young Picassos. Toddler Art lessons will be given 10 to 10:45 a.m., Thursdays, Oct. 8 through Dec. 3, for ages 2 through 4 at Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Hands-on creativity is the theme as children explore paint, clay, color, texture and

shapes. Dress little ones in old clothes or smock and be prepared for a messy good time. Parent participation is required.

Cost is \$60 per student.

Private piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 thru 18, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays or Fridays, Oct. 30 thru Dec. 18 (no class on Nov. 3, 6, 24 and 27).

Lessons cost \$102 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.

Students will be responsible for purchasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

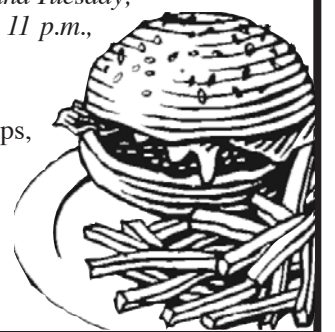
The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday.

Week of Sept. 29

Special #1: Turkey club sandwich with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$6.95.

Special #1: Crab cake platter with French fries, coleslaw, cookie and regular soda for \$9.95.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.





Security awareness - Understanding foreign disclosure

CECOM LCMC G2

As the Army continues to interact with foreign governments, the CECOM Life Cycle Management Command's security office would like to remind employees of the foreign disclosure guidelines to ensure that sensitive information goes through the appropriate channels prior to its release.

According to Army Regulation 380-10, foreign disclosure is the legal transfer of classified or controlled unclassified military information through approved channels to an authorized representative of a foreign government. In addition to classified and controlled unclassified documents, any information pertaining to emerging, developing or existing technologies should also be protected.

There are eight distinct categories of Classified Military information outlined in the National Disclosure Policy.

Category 1: Organization, Training, and Employment of Forces

Category 2: Military Material and Munitions

Category 3: Applied Research and Development Information

Category 4: Production Information

Category 5: Combined Military Operation, Planning and Readiness

Category 6: U.S. Order of Battle Information

Category 7: North American Defense

Category 8: Military Intelligence

A foreign disclosure officer categorizes and is the approval authority for the release of military information to foreign government representatives. The basic criteria for foreign disclosure includes: national interest, purpose, government to government, protection, access, third party and compromise.

Foreign access to information must be provided in the best interests of the United States and meet foreign policy or a military objective. Information must only be used for its intended purpose and be disclosed through official channels approved by both governments. The foreign entity must provide security pro-

tection that is equal to the security of the United States, including granting access to individuals with a security clearance and need-to-know status.

"Foreign disclosure affects each employee," said CECOM LCMC Foreign Disclosure officer Georgianne Sheppard-Mbafor. "Although not all foreign nationals visit to collect sensitive information, the key is to be aware and practice good operational security procedures."

There are several techniques that have been confirmed by counterintelligence professionals as common methods used by foreign collectors during visits (DSS PA release #01-05-18-04).

• **Peppering:** Several visitors ask the same question in different ways or one visitor asks the same question to multiple U.S. contractor employees.

• **Wandering visitor:** The visitor uses the distraction provided by a large delegation to slip away, out of the control of the escort.

• **Divide and conquer:** The foreign visitors take the U.S. team members into different areas to discuss issues, thus, relieving the U.S. person of his safety net of being assisted in answering questions or eliminating oversight of what he releases.

• **Last minute visitor switching:** A tool that is sometimes used to add a collector to the group without leaving enough time for a background check to be performed on the new visitor.

• **Bait and switch:** The delegation says they are coming to discuss business that is acceptable for discussion, but after they arrive their agenda switches to different questions and discussions.

• **The distraught visitor:** When the visitor does not have questions answered he/she has a temper tantrum or acts as though they are insulted. They hope the U.S. person will want to avoid a scene and answer the questions.

For more information, contact Sheppard-Mbafor, 410-436-4978.



Top 10 reasons to support the CFC in 2009

Chesapeake Bay Area CFC Office

1. At least one, if not multiple Combined Federal Campaign charities, have had (or will have in the future) an impact in your life or the life of someone you care about.

2. Federal employees have more job security than most people in the United States today.

3. It is easier than ever before to give to one or more charities through online giving.

4. Many charities depend on federal employees' generosity through the CFC to keep their doors open to the public. Through your CFC pledge, these non-profit organizations can continue to provide critically needed health and human services to the community, country and planet.

5. If you haven't given to the CFC before, consid-

er a small dollar amount per pay. It's amazing to see how far a charity can make \$1, \$2, or even \$5 per pay go. (Twelve months for military and 26 months for civilians).

6. Giving to the CFC through payroll deduction is a safe, proven, and easy way to make a larger donation feel not quite so large as your total pledge is incrementally deducted from your paycheck over the course of the year, beginning with the first pay period of 2010.

7. During these challenging economic times, imagine those who are worse off. They are experiencing financial hardships twice-fold.

8. Attend a CFC special event. They're a fun and relaxing way to take a step away from the stresses of life to cele-

brate philanthropy and show your enthusiasm for the CFC.

9. Compete for a CFC auction item. It's just like eBay, but the benefits go to the CFC and you come away with a great gift. Check out the online-auction items to see what you might find.

10. Giving is its own reward.

To make an online donation, visit CFC Online Pledging at http://cfcnexus.org/_chesapeake. For the APG Online Silent Auction, visit www.apg.army.mil/AKOSSprompt/CFCSilentAuction.cfm.

For more information, call the APG CFC Office in Top of the Bay Down Under, building 30, 410-278-9913/9915, or Mikey Graziano, APG CFC chair, 410-942-9983.

Operational Control of U.S. Army Installation Management Command's information management functions expected to be invisible to employees

Story by
SING LEE
IMCOM News Service

Directorate of Information Management network-related functions at IMCOM garrisons will be reassigned to the Army's Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Signal Command effective Oct. 1.

The exchange in operational control will be transparent to most employees and customers shouldn't experience any service interruptions. The implementation and continual oversight is being led by Brig. Gen. Jennifer L. Napper, the commanding general of the 7th Signal Com-

mand (Theater) headquartered at Fort Gordon, Ga.

The 7th SC (T) is responsible for the CONUS geographical area and is the final theater to be organized under a theater signal command to support the Army's Global Network Enterprise Construct.

One of the key goals of the Army CIO/G-6 is to develop and maintain a secure, seamless, interdependent Land-WarNet network by leading development and enforcing the use of integrated enterprise architecture, according to Chris Poulsen, IMCOM chief information officer.

"This is a win-win situation for the Army," he said. "We're enhancing computer network defense, unifying the Army's global networks and providing enhanced enterprise capabilities."

By consolidating all DOIMs under a single Army command, NETCOM/9th SC will be empowered to operate, manage and defend the Army's global network while also enabling enterprise capabilities of network service centers to the Warfighter through all joint phases of military operations.

The CONUS DOIMs will be managed by two 7th SC

(T) brigades: The 93rd Signal Brigade at Fort Eustis, Va., and the 106th Signal Brigade at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. A plan to complete the reassignment of all other CONUS DOIM and DOIM-like organizations, such as those associated with Army Materiel Command U.S. Army Medical Command, will be developed and implemented between fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2012.

Not all DOIM functions will be transferred to NETCOM/9th SC. The following functions will stay within the IMCOM garrison structure:

photo lab, multimedia support, visual information broadcast/video/audio, graphic arts, VI media/equipment support, Land Mobile Radio End-User Device procurement, records management, official mail and distribution, and forms and publication management.

A garrison Information Management Office will also be established to monitor NETCOM network services delivery, perform information technology planning and acquisition of end user devices, generate and validate requirements, and execute information assurance tasks for the garrison.

Waivers

From front page

are seeking their TRICARE Prime healthcare services.

Recently, Health Net mailed letters to specific non-active duty TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who have Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System documented addresses located greater than a 30 minute drive-time distance from KUSAHC. Health Net is required to have every beneficiary's TRICARE Prime Enrollment Application and PCM Change Form (DD 2876) signed (Section VI - Signature) and on file. If the TRICARE Prime enrolled beneficiary lives greater than a 30 minute drive-time distance from their primary care delivery site (MTF/clinic or civilian primary care manager (PCM)), Health Net is required to have Section V (Access Waiver) of the enrollment application signed by the beneficiary. Even though Section V of the enrollment application (DD Form 2876) is worded more for beneficiaries that live outside the normal 40 mile Prime Service Area of a military treatment facility or Base Realignment and Closure site, it is the only authorized documentation that allows the beneficiary to acknowledge they are driving more than 30 minutes and are waiving this TRICARE Prime drive-time standard. Health Net is determining the 30 minute drive-time distance from each beneficiary's DEERS documented address to KUSAHC by using their own mapping software.

This current re-enrollment activity/

notice by Health Net to KUSAHC non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrolled beneficiaries is in response to an ongoing enrollment revalidation required by Health Affairs policy, in accordance with Federal regulations (specifically Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 199.17(p)(5)(i)). The 30 minute drive-time requirement ensures non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollees are assigned to a primary care delivery site (MTF/clinic or civilian PCM) close to where they live. This requirement applies to both MTF and civilian TRICARE Prime enrollments and is a fundamental principle of the TRICARE Basic Program.

Unfortunately, there might be some confusion with Health Net notices that were sent to KUSAHC's non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollees.

All current KUSAHC non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollees who live greater than a 30-minute drive-time from KUSAHC will have their enrollment documentation reviewed and revalidated by Health Net. All current TRICARE Prime enrolled beneficiaries that live between the 30 minute drive-time mark out to 99 miles will continue their enrollment to KUSAHC when Health Net has confirmed that either the enrollment application has Section V and VI signed, or the beneficiary has re-enrolled using the Beneficiary Web Enrollment option. In contrast, all current KUSAHC non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollees that reside greater than 99 miles from KUSAHC, or in another TRICARE region, will be notified by Health Net of their "disqualification" from continued TRICARE Prime enrollment to KUSAHC after Oct. 1. Health Net is pro-

viding any disqualified beneficiary with information and healthcare options available in respect to where the beneficiary lives.

[The command] understands that some KUSAHC TRICARE Prime enrollees might be disqualified from continued TRICARE Prime enrollment, but it also recognizes that maintaining current TRICARE Prime enrollment of beneficiaries who live greater than 99 miles from KUSAHC is not meeting the expectation of accessible primary care for beneficiaries.

All new non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollment requests or TRICARE Prime transfer requests to KUSAHC will be received and processed by Health Net, just like they have been in the past. Now, Health Net will review each beneficiary's request for TRICARE Prime enrollment and evaluate it against KUSAHC's identified enrollment capacity and geographical rules (like zip codes). Beneficiaries using the paper enrollment application (DD Form 2876) should sign Section V of the enrollment application if they are unsure if they live greater than 30 minutes away from KUSAHC. The clinic's automatic acceptance of enrollment requests is based on capacity, the geographical rules (like zip codes) and beneficiary category rules. Signing Section V and VI of the enrollment application meets all the necessary drive-time waiver and enrollment requirements.

After receiving and reviewing each beneficiary's TRICARE Prime enrollment request, Health Net will notify each beneficiary if TRICARE Prime enrollment is or is not available at KUSAHC.

A civilian PCM will be offered if TRICARE Prime enrollment is not available at KUSAHC.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is working very hard to ensure that it can accommodate the most TRICARE Prime enrollees possible, but depending on KUSAHC's capacity and the beneficiary's address, some beneficiaries may not be eligible for TRICARE Prime enrollment to KUSAHC.

For more information concerning this new requirement, contact Megan Krebs at KUSAHC, 410-278-1719 or e-mailing megan.krebs@amedd.army.mil.

For information about TRICARE plans, visit <http://tricare.mil/mybenefit>. For regional contractor information about access-to-care waivers visit the MCSC's Web sites or call:

Health Net - <https://www.hnfs.net/bene/enrollment/New+Policy+Changes+for+Access+to+Care+Standards.htm>, 1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273)


Humana Military - <http://www.humana-military.com/south/bene/billing-enrollment/access-to-care.asp>, 1-800-444-5445

TriWest - <http://www.triwest.com/beneficiary/frames.aspx?page=/beneficiary/BOLT/Home.mvc/Details/Drive%20Time%20Access%20Standard%20Waiver>, 1-888-TRIWEST (1-888-874-9378)

(Editor's note: TRICARE Prime beneficiaries can look for the TRICARE Management Activity press release on the TRICARE Web site, <http://www.tricare.mil/Access-to-Care%20Waiver.pdf> or on the TMA Press Room, <http://www.tricare.mil/pressroom/>.)

NFPA free online game helps children learn important fire facts





Panic on the highway!

Installation Safety Office

“Adventures in driving decision making” is brought to everyone by the Installation Safety Office.

Test your driving expertise in the following situation and then from the options provided, select the best answer. Find out the correct response the answers printed upside down.

Situation #53

You are driving the legal speed limit on a two-lane county road. It’s a cold early morning and the sun is shining. You certainly don’t expect to see any ice on the road, but there it is, right in front of you. You’re almost on it. What should you do?

A. Don’t touch your brakes, take foot off accelerator and steer straight ahead.

B. Brake before reaching it, release and steer straight ahead.

Answer A. This takes quick thinking. Your decision to “not touch your brakes, take foot off accelerator, and steer straight ahead” is not really the best choice. It’s important to slow down before the ice. You need to reduce your speed substantially before getting to the ice, and just taking your foot off the accelerator isn’t enough. Then when you reach the ice, don’t touch the brake or accelerator and keep your wheels going straight without any turns. Answer B was the best choice.

Answer B. Yes, your decision to “brake before reaching it, release and steer straight ahead” is the best choice. You were thinking right to get your speed down before reaching the ice, then steer across straight ahead. It’s the same with mud and leaves, oil, snow, water and gravel.



Veterans' Voices

World War II veterans visit APG

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A group of World War II veterans from Hanover, Pa., enjoyed a lunch with Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers, the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum and the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and a chat with the Garrison Command Sergeant Major during a visit to the installation Sept. 22.

Fred Posadas, an operations specialist with the Garrison S-3, met the group from the Homewood Plum Creek Retirement Community at the Route 715 Gate and escorted them to the dining facility where they met with Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades and Master Sgt. Dennis A. Westbrook, the first sergeant of the U.S. Air Force Detachment.

Rhoades talked about World War II and shared his own war experiences in Somalia and during Desert Storm.

"I say that because what you all have done for us made a significant impact on our way of life," he told the group. He thanked them for their service on behalf of Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"It's an honor for me to be here with you today and I look forward to hearing your stories," Rhoades said.

Westbrook added his appreciation, noting that the USAF Detachment has



Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades, right, and Master Sgt. Dennis A. Westbrook, first sergeant of the U.S. Air Force Detachment, distribute Garrison coins to World War II veterans from Pennsylvania in the garrison dining facility in building 4503 during their visit to APG Sept. 22.

been at APG for 35 years but will depart next year due to base realignment and closure.

"Our relationship with the Army will end so far as welding goes, so any opportunity we have to participate in events like this, we're all for it," he said.

Rhoades distributed garrison coins to

each veteran and then group members ate lunch in the facility, mingling with the installation Soldiers.

"We get a mixture of visitors here, but not as distinguished as these gentlemen," said dining facility manager Michael Boyle as he guided the veterans through the line. "It's a pleasure for us to serve

them," Boyle said.

Posadas said the veterans, 38 in all, enjoyed the tanks and weapons at the Ordnance Museum and got to ride on military vehicles like the M-1 Bradley and the Stryker during their tour of ATC.

"They visit every year and this is one trip they really enjoyed," he said.

'Vets to the Valley' initiatives provide training, jobs to military veterans

Story by
CAROLINE RATCLIFF
AkinsCrisp Public Strategies

When Mark Dellaquila thought about life after high school graduation, he knew that a college degree was in his future. However, he struggled with the dilemma of how to pay for college without putting the financial burden on his family, who already had five other children's educations to pay for. Dellaquila determined that joining the Air Force was the best alternative for him, and he enlisted after graduation in 2003.

After six years of service and training as a lead forecaster in the Air Force where he would monitor global weather conditions affecting daily operations of the Air Force's largest Air and Space Operations Center, Dellaquila again came to another fork in the road where decisions had to be made about his career and educational future.

"There was an on-going battle inside of my head about whether to separate or re-enlist," Dellaquila said. "I had a pretty good six-year enlistment in the Air Force, and I enjoyed it. I also received invaluable experience and training. But, I knew I wasn't going to finish a degree in engineering while on active duty with both the long work hours and the constant unknowns about where I'd be stationed in the future."

Dellaquila ultimately decided to separate from the military when he discovered a new workforce development program in the Tennessee Valley Corridor—"Vets to the Valley." This initiative was created to utilize one of the nation's most valuable assets—technically-trained, ex-military personnel, while at the same time answering a tremendous need facing the U.S.—a shortage of trained technicians and engineers graduating from the nation's universities and colleges.

"Vets to the Valley," provides participants with hands-on experience in their field through a co-op program while they earn their degree, with priority consideration for a job after graduation.

"The initiative includes two slightly different, but locally-tailored programs designed to bring talented, military veterans together with the region's top tech-

nical organizations and employers," said Erin Koshut, program manager for Vets to the Valley. "These highly trained ex-military personnel can help our nation fill the ever-increasing gap in engineering to keep us competitive, while at the same time providing a financially secure plan for them and their families."

"Vets to the Valley" is initially focused on two areas within the Tennessee Valley Corridor—Huntsville, Ala., and Oak Ridge, Tenn., and military from across the country are being recruited to apply for the program. Participating employers provide a paid co-op/work-study program, allowing participants to work in an engineering job while in school, and then be given priority consideration to permanently fill that position upon graduation.

NEW-STEM, which stands for Non-Commissioned Officer Enhanced Workforce in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, is designed to attract more technically-trained Non-Commissioned Officers (Ranks E5-E9) exiting the Army, Air Force and other services to the technology-rich Huntsville, Ala. region. The program provides NCOs with the opportunity to earn their engineering degree at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Dellaquila is one of six of the NEW-STEM program's pilot year of participants who started their co-ops this summer and school in Huntsville this fall. He is employed by Northrop Grumman, and he will pursue a degree in either aerospace or industrial engineering.

"The program literally addressed and answered every hesitation or reservation I had about leaving the Air Force. It would provide me with the opportunity to receive a top-notch education in engineering and also a job in the same area to not only pay the bills but to give me hands-on, real-life experience in the courses I would be studying," Dellaquila said.

While pursuing their degree, students participate in a co-op program being offered by either a Department of Defense command located on Redstone Arsenal or a private sector company in Huntsville, Ala. The participating organizations in the NEW-STEM program thus far include the DoD's Mis-

sile Defense Agency and the Northrop Grumman Corporation.

NEW-STEM's registration for the 2010 class is currently open, and applications for participation will be taken until Sept. 18, 2009.

"This is a great initiative to help veterans transition from the military way of life to a rewarding career as a civilian while furthering their education in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics field," Dellaquila said. "I hope more NCOs who want to pursue a civilian career in a STEM field will see what a great opportunity this is and apply. It can really be a life-changing experience."

NEW-STEM's counterpart in Oak Ridge, Tenn., "America's Veterans to Tennessee Engineers," focuses on attracting veterans, but also actively advertises its program to the Wounded Warrior program and has made a trip to Walter Reed Army Medical Center to share the program with their patients. The program is geared specifically to attract veterans interested in nuclear, chemical, electrical, mechanical, or civil engineering. The America's Veterans to Tennessee Engineers pilot program began January 2009, and participating agencies include B&W Y-12, Tennessee Valley Authority, B&W Clinch River, UT-Battelle/Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Energy Solutions, Science Applications International Corporation, Pro2Serve, Bechtel, Uranium Services Enrichment Corporation, EnergyX, Information International Associates Inc., Tetra Tech, Materials and Chemistry Laboratory, Inc. (MCL), Ingenium Professional Services and GEM Technologies Inc. so far.

"Our participants have already proven they are dedicated, talented men and women and we expect them to be a perfect match for the energy companies here in the Oak Ridge-Knoxville area," said Kevin Smith, interim program Steering Committee chairman of the America's Veterans to Tennessee Engineers consortium.

One of the first participants in the program, Derrick Middleton, had always admired the military growing up, and after Sept. 11, 2001, he knew it was his duty to join the Marines and serve his

country. In Marine Corps 0311 Infantry, Middleton did one tour in Iraq and spent the remainder of his service conducting security at a nuclear submarine base.

When it came time to start a new chapter in his life, Middleton decided to pursue a chemical engineering degree. After looking into the America's Veterans to Tennessee Engineers Program, he knew it was another opportunity he couldn't pass up.

"The transition from military to civilian life is a very difficult one, Middleton said. "This program has already greatly benefitted me in the aspect of allowing what is normally a significantly hard and uncertain period of time to be more of an exciting time."

Middleton is working part time at Materials and Chemistry Laboratory, Inc. while in school at Pellissippi State Community College.

"It has provided the perfect opportunity for a somewhat immediate job placement, in an environment that encourages and expects an education too," he said.

For Middleton, the resources available to help him complete the program were one of the main reasons he chose to participate.

"The program made it clear that I did not need to know which field I wanted to go into at first, nor was there any pressure to go into any certain field. All I would have to do is keep good grades and graduate with a degree," Middleton said. "And there were so many resources out there to help me to complete the program, such as tutoring, mentorship, advice and a lot of encouragement—I knew this was the path for me."

"I would encourage all veterans to look into this program. I am sure glad I did. It has turned out to be a life changing opportunity. This program has opened up many doors for me. I believe it would open up many for others," Middleton said.

Ideally, both programs will grow to 30 participants per year and should be fully implemented in 2010.

Candidates wishing to participate in either program may find out more about the requirements and qualifications needed, as well as apply at www.tennvalley-corridor.org.

VA Maryland Health Care System offers four drive-thru flu clinics

VA Maryland Health Care System

Drive-thru burgers, drive-thru donuts. Drive-thru flu shots? Maryland veterans too busy to get an annual flu shot? No problem. The VA Maryland Health Care System is offering drive-thru flu shot clinics the first three Saturdays in October to enrolled veterans at four locations: Baltimore, Glen Burnie, Loch Raven and Perry Point.

Influenza or flu, a contagious disease, kills 36,000 people annually. The VA Maryland Health Care System encourages everyone, except those allergic to eggs or who have experienced severe allergic reactions, to get an annual flu shot. The VA Maryland Health Care System will offer walk-in flu shot clinics at each location and drive-thru flu shot clinics at four locations for enrolled veterans—beginning Oct. 3. Veterans must bring their VA ID with them. All flu shots are free, and

appointments are not required.

Health care providers ask enrolled veterans using the drive-thru flu clinics to wear short sleeve shirts and be ready to extend their arms out their car windows for the shot.

Drive-thru flu clinics locations, times

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 3, Perry Point VA Medical Center
- 9 a.m. to noon, Oct. 3, Glen Burnie Outpatient Clinic, 808 Landmark Drive, Suite 128, Glen Burnie
- 9 a.m. to noon, Oct. 10, VA Loch Raven Outpatient Clinic, 3901 The Alameda, Baltimore
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 17, Baltimore VA Medical Center (parking garage)

The Drive-Thru Flu Clinics will take place in the parking lots of the designated sites and at the parking garage area at the Baltimore VA Medical Center.

VA warns service members of credit card scam

Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs is warning veterans not to give credit card numbers over the phone to callers claiming to update VA prescription information.

"America's veterans have become targets in an inexcusable scam that dishonors their service and misrepresents the Department built for them," said Dr. Gerald Cross, VA's under secretary for Health. "VA simply does not call veterans and ask them to disclose personal financial information over the phone."

Veteran Service Organizations have brought to VA's attention that callers are misrepresenting the VA to gain personal information over the phone.

"VA has not changed its processes for dispensing prescription medicines," Cross said. "Nor has VA changed its long-standing commitment to protect the personal information of this nation's veterans."

Veterans with questions about VA services should contact the nearest VA medical center or call, toll-free, 1-877-222-8387.



PM EW set to meet Army's electronic warfare needs

Story by
BRANDON POLLACHEK
PEO IEW&S

As the U.S. Army approaches eight years of counter insurgency operations in two theaters, Iraq and Afghanistan, the enemy use of the electromagnetic spectrum against U.S. Soldiers has remained a persistent challenge.

Protecting Soldiers from improvised explosive device attacks and providing them with an accurate and complete understanding of their environment across the spectrum has brought about significant change in focus for the Army in the area of electronic warfare. Land component commanders and their staffs must now be more adept in their knowledge of how the electromagnetic spectrum can both positively as well as negatively impact operations. By tightly integrating EW as a form of non-kinetic fires with existing kinetic capabilities, the Army will achieve spectrum dominance through an effects based joint operations plan.

The Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors, or PEO IEW&S, has stepped to the forefront in supporting this new direction with a focus on oper-



ationalizing EW as an integrated battlefield capability that will enhance situational awareness, improve force protection, enable dominant maneuver, and aid in precision lethality. To meet the emerging demand for the recently established EW vision, PEO IEW&S stood up the Project Manager Electronic Warfare (PM EW) office Sept. 1 under Col. Rod Mentzer.

PM EW, formerly Project Director Signals Warfare, was established to give the developing areas of EW a home for all of its integration needs.

“We’re changing the name to highlight the core competencies of this Project Management Office as the Army transitions into an era of increased emphasis on capabilities associated with electronic warfare,” said Brig. Gen. Thomas Cole, program

executive officer for IEW&S. “We have a talented, experienced workforce and synergy of effort among IEW&S, RDECOM [U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground], and CECOM [Communications and Electronics Command] in Fort Monmouth, N.J., for doing this type of work. PM EW provides the Army a focal point for providing EW capability to Soldiers.”

This change in direction coincides with recent actions within the Army to establish a formal home for EW requirements.

“As the Army began to get its fingers back into the fight and electronic warfare scenarios came to the forefront the Army decided it needed to get back into the EW arena and stood up an office in the G3/5/7 shop,” said

Mentzer referring to the establishment of the Electronic Warfare Division in the Pentagon.

In February, a 29 series Military Occupation Series was created that will eventually give the Army the largest electronic warfare manpower force of all the services. Nearly 1,600 EW personnel, serving at every level of command, will be added to the Army over the next three years.

The Army’s EW personnel will not only be experts in fighting the threat of IEDs, but they will be versed in a much more complex challenge of controlling the electromagnetic environment in land warfare by tactical employment of the three major EW tenets of electronic attack, electronic protection, and electronic warfare support to gain an advantage in support of tactical and operational objectives across the full spectrum of operations.

PM EW is poised to supply these Soldiers with the tools they need to operate within the EW spectrum.

“PM Electronic Warfare will enable and support these adaptive, versatile and full spectrum capable-Electronic Warfare Soldiers with the highest technology possible,” Mentzer said.

Product Managers Counter RCIED Electronic Warfare Sys-

tems, Prophet and Information Warfare will remain under the EW charter as the organization poises itself to take the prominent position in fielding and sustaining systems, which will meet the Army’s EW needs. PM EW currently fields various versions of CREW, Prophet Enhanced systems and a multitude of classified systems. In fiscal year 2009, the organization fielded more than 36,000 CREW devices as well as more than 30 Prophet systems.

Over the near term, Mentzer plans on working closely with the G3 as they define the requirements and the direction the Army will take in the realm of EW.

In summarizing the role EW will play in the Army in current conflicts as well as in the future Gen. Raymond Odierno, Multi-National Force-Iraq commander said, “I think by having [EW specialists] within every unit in Multi-National Corp-Iraq, in Afghanistan and any future operation it will better enable our forces to combat the threat that is inside the electronic warfare spectrum. This expertise and capacity will obviously help save the lives of our Soldiers and it will also help us to move forward and understand the spectrum as we continue to develop our operation.”

September Well-Being focuses on post updates, events

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Members of the Aberdeen Proving Ground community gathered at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel Aug. 20 to discuss upcoming events.

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, APG garrison and deputy installation commander, welcomed attendees and said that his goal is to increase participation from the APG community at the Well-Being meetings.

Ortiz added that he will host town hall meetings for the workforce to identify issues and concerns that leadership should address. Specific details on the upcoming town hall meetings will be announced in the *APG News*.

The meeting was then turned over to Regina Dannenfels, chief of Child, Youth and School Services.

DTMS

John Kearney, director of Plans, Transportation, Mobilization and Security, talked about the Ordnance Center and Schools Museum move to Fort Lee, Va., which will happen over the next two to three years. Kearney added that 60 artifacts have been moved to Fort Lee, and another 60 will move in the next few months.

“At the same time you will see pieces come in,” Kearney said referring to the installation museum, which will contain APG artifacts.

Kearney said that a new director, Gale Fuller, has been hired for that museum.

“She has a big task ahead of her to design a new museum, come up with a new mission statement and a story line to design what will go on in that building and on the field, and it all has to be vetted and cleared by the Center of Military History who own the artifacts,” Kearney said. “They own the artifacts and they make the final decision on what stays and goes.”

He added that the new museum is a work in progress over the next two to three years.

Commissary

Anne Morrison from the Commissary said that with 48 hours notice the Commissary can provide customers with assorted trays like fruit trays, vegetable trays, deli platters and cookie platters in various sizes for holiday entertaining. Morrison added that these trays are also popular during the football season.

“We also do fruit baskets which are also very popular gifts around the holidays,” Morrison said. “They are sold at an inexpensive price and contain all fruit.”

Morrison added that the Commissary is also having a special on fall plants.

DENTAC

Sergeant Marcelo Da Silva from the APG Dental Command, talked about the gradual move of Advanced Individual Training Soldiers to Fort Lee, which opens up a lot of slots for permanent party. Exams can be done on a walk-in basis.

“We have a ninety-five percent readi-

ness, but we always want to reach higher,” he said.

Da Silva added that Col. David J. Kryszak is the new APG DENTAC commander.

KUSAHC

Dr. Charles McCannan, deputy of community services for Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, said that KUSAHC now has the seasonal flu vaccine. McCannan said that hopefully the vaccine will be open to retirees soon.

He said that KUSAHC should have the vaccine for the H1N1 flu in October, which has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for healthy people between age 18 and 64 for now. They are still waiting for approval for children 17 and under and pregnant women and people that are 65 and older.

McCannan said that the Department of Defense’s goal is to vaccinate active duty and key civilian personnel through DoD channels.

McCannan said people should that the CDC predicts that the H1N1 flu will be no better or worse than the seasonal flu. This information is based on the Southern Hemisphere which is experiencing their flu season now.

“There is no reason to believe that in a developed country that it will be worse than the seasonal flu,” he said.

McCannan said people should follow good personal hygiene practices like frequent hand washing and coughing into a tissue.

“More so than the vaccination, that will really help you out as far as avoiding getting the flu or any communicable diseases,” McCannan said.

He said that KUSAHC is following the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, the county and the state.

McCannan said that as we go into October there will be a provider shortage, which will result in more patients possibly being sent to network providers.

“Our goal is for all active duty military to be seen, we do not want to send the military out,” he said. “We have to prioritize our mission but hopefully it will be very short term.”

McCannan said that on a positive note, the wait time for the pharmacy has gone down, with the average wait time being 30 minutes, which is comparable or better to other pharmacies.

“This is a great accomplishment as our pharmacy has been understaffed for over three years,” he said.

McCannan said that KUSAHC is closed during all federal holidays, the next holiday being Oct. 12 for Columbus Day.

McCannan added to call the appointment line at 410-278-5475. During after duty hours, the staff duty noncommissioned officer answers the line on weekends and holidays.

For non-emergency situations, call the number and get a referral.

FMWR

Christina Lockhart, director of Marketing for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said that the Army Family Action Plan Conference will take place at Top of the Bay Oct. 6 through 8.

FMWR will also host a Disability Expo and Career Fair Oct. 8 at the Recreation Center, building 3326. For more information, call 410-278-9669.

At Ruggles Golf Course there are daily lunch specials in the newly renovated club house.

There is also a special on lessons called “Bring Your Game.” For more information, call 410-278-4952.

“On our Web site you can get all event information on www.apgmwr.com,” she said.

Lockhart added that she is working with outside businesses who are giving military discounts.

Lockhart encouraged attendees to use the Interactive Customer Evaluation, or ICE Web site. She said that making comments on this site will help improve FMWR facilities.

Stacie Umbarger, the SKIES Instructional Program director, talked about the upcoming SKIES classes. These classes can be found by going to www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_skies.html.

Parents who have school age children can attend two free presentations on Everyday Math Curriculum that is used by the Harford County Public School system, taught by a math specialist, Dr. Pamela Tabor. She will provide information on how to prepare for and interpret the assessments. Parents will be given information about how to be sent, via e-mail, links to special Web sites complete with Everyday Math games for concept development. For more information, call 410-278-4995 or 410-278-4589.

The presentation takes place on Oct. 6 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center and Oct. 8 at the Edgewood Area Youth Center. Both presentations run 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

An attendee remarked that the presentation was “extremely helpful, and doesn’t take long.” This program is open to the entire APG community.

Marilyn Howard, from Army Community Services said that issues need to be submitted for the upcoming AFAP. Issues can be submitted by going to APG’s main Web site, www.apg.army.mil, under “Well-Being.”

Dannenfels said Oct. 17 will be Retiree Appreciation Day, which will be held at the Recreation Center. Following the event is lunch at the dinning facility. Check upcoming issues of *APG News* for more details.

DPW

Joe Krukosky, chief of Buildings and Structures with the Directorate of Public Works, said that the DPW workforce is going to increase to better accommodate the installation, and will especially increase the personnel required to perform maintenance activities.

DES

Robert Krauer, director of Emergency Services, expressed thanks for community cooperation during the installation’s annual emergency response training exercise Sept. 14 through 16.

“It is an important program for first responders and the community at large,” he said.

Krauer announced that there is a slight delay in the completion of the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area, which will be completed in late November to early December.

“We will have a state of the art facility once it is complete,” Krauer said.

He added that work is being done to the Route 22 Gate to expand it to five lanes, so that there will be five lanes like the Route 715 Gate.

Krauer added that once the work is completed on the 22 Gate, the Aberdeen Gate will be closed.

“Since we will have ten available lanes, we don’t anticipate any problems for people getting through,” he said.

Krauer said there has been an increase in accidents involving deer. He said drivers should use extra caution, and to be aware of their surroundings when on the road; especially during dawn and dusk when deer are most active.

On Oct. 10 DES will host the Fall Fest Community Awareness Day 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free event is open to people of all ages and celebrates Fire Prevention Week. See article in this week’s *APG News* for more details.

Krauer added that DES will be starting the D.A.R.E. program at the Youth Center and the Child Youth Development Center in January. There will also be a D.A.R.E. Dance Program.

“This has been a great program for our kids,” he said.

Chapel

Gerri Merkel, director of Religious Education, announced there will be an ecumenical Hallelujah Harvest, an alternative to celebrating Halloween, at the Aberdeen Area Chapel on Oct. 31. For more information, call Merkel at 410-278-2516.

BRAC Transformation Office

Syreeta Gross from the BRAC Transformation Office said that the construction contract for Consolidated North was awarded to James G. Davis Construction for \$20.7 million and the contract for the Joint SATCOM Engineering Center was awarded to Endicott Construction for \$19 million on Tuesday Sept. 15.

She added that there are only two BRAC buildings left to be awarded.

Ortiz closed the meeting by thanking attendees for coming to the meeting.

He said to anticipate town hall meetings for the entire workforce in October.

The next Well-Being meeting will take place at the Edgewood Area Chapel 9:30 a.m., Oct. 15.

APG hosts first Iron Horse motorcycle ride

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

To support motorcycle safety awareness and promote esprit de corps, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison hosted the 1st Annual Ironhorse Motorcycle Safety and Fun Ride for service members, civilians, retirees and Family members, who live, work and ride in the APG community.

Major Matt Petraitis, commander of the Garrison's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, and Maj. Alexander Babington of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, organized the event which was conceived by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Randy J. Rhoades.

Petraitis said the event was held to unite community riders as well as to reinforce Department of Defense standards for motorcycle safety. He credited Rhoades and Babington with the planning and advertising for the event and motorcycle safety expert David Backert for reviewing safety requirements at the start of the event.

"He [Backert] has been riding for more than thirty years and he can tell you what you're doing wrong," Petraitis said. "He reviewed safety checks, scenarios and lessons learned with the assistance from Mike Allen of the Garrison Safety Office."

Petraitis said the plan called for riders to gather at Fanshaw Field and from there, travel as a group up Route 136 to Route 1 in Darlington, cross the Conowingo Dam and return on Route 222 through Port Deposit and take Route 40 to Edgewood, ending at Capa Field in the Edgewood Area. Intermittent rain showers caused the route to be modified, he said, and the riders returned to Fanshaw Field instead.



Photo by FRED POSADAS, APG GARRISON S-3
Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades, right, and Maj. Alexander Babington, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, get ready to lead APG motorcycle riders on the 1st Annual Ironhorse Motorcycle Safety and Fun Ride Aug. 28.

shaw Field instead.

He thanked the Chesapeake Harley Davidson on Route 1 in Darlington for providing riders with pit beef sandwiches and refreshments, door prizes, and a 10 percent discount for purchases and elements from the Directorate of Emergency Services for supporting the ride.

"DES police did a great job," Petraitis said. "They put up traffic control points and escorted us out through the [Route 715] gate."

City of Aberdeen police assisted by blocking intersections at the Aberdeen Wal Mart and train station on Route 40 for riders to pass through unhindered, he added.

In addition, first responders

from the DES Fire Department followed the riders along with Maj. Randy McCauley, who provided a 34-foot long trailer that contained repair parts, a battery charger and air compressor.

"He doesn't ride but he volunteered to go along to help out if needed," Petraitis said.

"Feedback was positive," he added. "The riders liked it. Because the post is so dispersed, several said they appreciated the chance to meet and network with one another."

Members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association also joined the riders.

Fred Posadas, an operations specialist with the Garrison S-3, and motorcycle enthusiast who participated in the ride, called

it "awesome," despite a lower than expected turnout.

"We had twenty-eight riders. We had hoped for more but the weather might have been a factor," he said. "But even though it rained, we continued on."

"Safety training was a big part of the day, and I think everyone learned from it," he added, noting that during the safety briefing riders were given the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's T-CLOCS™ inspection checklist, which details what to check and look for when inspecting tires, controls, lights, oil, chassis and stands.

"We also reviewed hand signals for group rides and Preliminary Loss Reports from the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/

Safety Center which reports on accident causes and preventive measures," Posadas said.

Petraitis said the Garrison plans to host two Ironhorse rides a year.

"We're planning another one in the spring, which is a good time to do a refresher on safety."

The Ironhorse Motorcycle Safety and Fun Ride is open to all military, civilians, retirees and their Family members in the APG community to promote motorcycle riding and safety awareness as well as to unite the APG riding community.

Look for information about the next ride in the *APG News* or contact Petraitis, 410-278-2104 or mathieu.petraitis@us.army.mil.



Health Notes

Commentary: Ditch that handshake for a smart salute

By
DR. ANNE E. BURNLEY
Kimbrough Ambulatory Care Center

Handshakes have reportedly been around since the birth of civilization and were originally a way to prove that you had no weapons in your hand when you met someone new.

We now know that our hands do indeed harbor tiny weapons in the form of germs that are invisible to the naked eye.

When someone with the flu sneezes or coughs without covering their mouth and nose, the virus is sprayed out in tiny airborne droplets that settle on surfaces, or may travel three to five feet before hitting the ground.

The flu virus can survive on a phone headset or a computer keyboard for up to eight hours. Contaminated hands can spread the flu virus during a handshake. While a face-to-face conversation could

result in infection, so too, could touching a contaminated door knob or telephone handset and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth without first washing your hands.

In the face of the H1N1 influenza A (H1N1 flu) pandemic and the upcoming flu season, ditching the handshake for a smart salute or an elbow nudge is not a bad idea. Even "La bise," the much loved cheek-to-cheek peck with which the French say hello or goodbye, may have to go, at least for now, for fear of spreading H1N1 flu.

If touching can't be avoided, an elbow nudge is safer than a fist-bump, which is probably safer than a handshake, which in turn is better than a hug or, at worst - a kiss.

There are going to be instances in which a handshake cannot be avoided without creating a scene or embarrassing

the person offering a hand.

Make sure you wash your hands or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to kill any germs on your hands as soon as possible after the handshake and before touching your eyes, nose, mouth or another unsuspecting person.

Hand washing is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Despite its proven health benefits, many people don't practice it as often as they should.

Good hand-washing techniques include washing your hands with soap and clean warm running water for 20 seconds (as long as it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice) or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Alcohol-based hand rubs significantly reduce the number of germs on the skin and are fast acting.

Throughout the day, you accumulate

germs on your hands through contact with people or other contaminated surfaces. If you don't wash your hands frequently enough, you can infect yourself with these germs by touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

According to experts at the Mayo Clinic, antimicrobial wipes are just as effective as soap and water in cleaning your hands but aren't as good as alcohol-based sanitizers. It is important to note that some hand sanitizers do not contain alcohol and are not effective. The CDC recommends choosing products that contain at least 60 percent alcohol. If your hands are visibly dirty, however, wash with soap and water, if available, rather than a sanitizer.

So for this upcoming flu season, remember - saluting is good, "elbow bumps" and waving are perfectly acceptable, and so is just saying, "hi."

Is the Family size changing? Update DEERS records

Story by
PATRICIA OPONG-BROWN
TRICARE Management Activity

Families around the world are constantly growing and changing and this includes military Families.

There are blended Families; where one or both partners have been married before and may have children from their previous marriages. And some Families grow by adopting children.

TRICARE reminds sponsors to enroll adopted or stepchildren in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System as soon as possible so the children can receive TRICARE health care benefits through the military health system.

Adopted and stepchildren of active duty service members are eligible for TRICARE. Stepchildren who are not adopted by the sponsor are covered by TRICARE as long as the sponsor and the mother or father of the stepchildren stay married.

There is a caveat: If the couple divorce, and the children were not adopted by the sponsor, their TRICARE eligibility ends on the date the divorce decree is final. If the sponsor adopted the stepchildren, but the couple gets a divorce, the children remain eligible for TRICARE benefits within the normal limits. These limits are:



- Unmarried up to the age of 21
- Unmarried up to the age of 23 if the stepchild is enrolled in a college or university full time and the sponsor provides 50 percent of the child's financial support

A stepchild or adopted child, including an adopted stepchild, may receive TRICARE coverage past the normal limits if he or she is severely disabled and the disability existed prior to age 21, or the disability occurred between the ages of 21 and 23 while enrolled in a college or university.

The Department of Defense requires all TRICARE eligible beneficiaries including adopted and stepchildren to

be registered in DEERS. TRICARE encourages parents and guardians to register the pre-adopted and adopted child in DEERS as soon as possible once assigned legal temporary or permanent custody of the child.

According to TRICARE policy, if an active duty sponsor adopts a child in the United States, the child is considered enrolled in TRICARE Prime on the day of the adoption. The sponsor then has 60 days to formally enroll the child in Prime before the enrollment converts to TRICARE Standard. If the child is adopted overseas, the sponsor has 120 days to enroll their new addition in TRICARE Overseas Prime

or TRICARE Global Remote Overseas before the child's enrollment converts to TRICARE Standard Overseas.

Sponsors can register Family members in DEERS at the nearest military personnel office or uniformed services identification card issuing office.

The following forms are required to register a child in DEERS:

Certificate of live birth issued by the hospital/birthing center or finalized adoption forms.

- DD Form 1172: Application for Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card. The sponsor's signature is required to register the adoptee/stepchild in DEERS. If the sponsor is not able to sign the DD Form 1172 in person, the form must be notarized.
- Legal forms, as specified by the member's branch of service, for pending or permanent adoptions.
- If a child is not registered in DEERS after one year of birth or adoption, TRICARE will not extend their health benefits until they are registered.

TRICARE wants all beneficiaries to remain eligible for health coverage within the MHS. For more information about how to enroll children in DEERS to ensure TRICARE eligibility, go to www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/overview/Eligibility.